THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per Section 197 (1) (b) of Criminal Procedure Code the State Governments are empowered to give permission to prosecute the officers of All India Services working under them.

Persons killed by Terrorists in Assam

667. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of persons killed by terrorists in the State of Assam during the last three months;

(b) whether any terrorist group has been identified by Government for these incidents;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what action has been taken to apprehend them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) According to report received from the Government of Assam, the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA), the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB), the Dima Halam Daogah (DHD), the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) and the United People's Democratic Solidarity (UPDS) militant outfits have killed 88 persons during the last three months (between 1.11.2001 to 31.1.2002) in Assam. Details are as follows:—

Name of militant Outfits responsible for killings to	No. of persons killed between 1.11.2001 31.1.2002
ULFA	14
NDFB	56
NSCN	03
DHD	04
UPDS	10
OTHERS	01
TOTAL	88

The State Government of Assam have registered cases against each incident and investigations are in progress to apprehend the involved militants.

NHRC directions to States regarding Mentally Retarded Patients

668. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NHRC has directed the States and UTs to ensure that no mentally ill patient is kept in chains in any mental hospital, after some States failed to comply with the report in this regard;

(b) if so, the reasons for issuance of such a direction;

(c) the names of the States which have not complied with such a report; and

(d) the action taken against such States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has requested all the States/UTs to certify that no mentally ill patient is kept in chains in any of their Mental Hospitals.

(b) In the light of the incident which took place on 6.8.2001 in which 28 inmates of Badhusha Private Mental Asylum in Erwadi in Ramanathapuram District (Tamilnadu) lost their lives in a fire, the commission felt it necessary to obtain certificates from Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs that no mentally ill patient is kept in chains in any of the mental hospitals in the State/UT.

(c) Certificates of compliance are awaited from the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Mizoram, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, West Bengal and Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

(d) The States mentioned in (c) above were reminded on 6.2.2002 to send the requisite certificates immediately.

Private Security Agencies

669. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comprehensive plan has been drawn up to regulate the activities of mushrooming private security agencies functioning in the capital